Genocide: Globalization and Political Violence

Sheefteh Khalili
PhD Student
UC Irvine

Review of Concepts

- Negative uses of culture
- Stereotypes
- Discrimination
- Institutionalized oppression

What makes it genocide?

According to the United Nations, Genocide is defined as:

 "The deliberate and systematic extermination of an ethnic, racial, religious or national group"

Key Terms

- Racial Group
 - defined by physical characteristics
- Ethnic Group
 - common cultural traditions, heritage
- National Group
- Religious Group

What makes it genocide?

- Killing members of the group
- Causing serious bodily or mental harm
- Deliberately inflicting destructive conditions onto the group
- Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group

What makes it genocide?

• it has to be a deliberate, calculated decision by a particular ethnic or religious group, leader, or a government to **exterminate**, or otherwise destroy, a specific group of people for religious, cultural, racial, or political reasons.

Victims of Genocide

- Most commonly studied
 - Germany: The Holocaust
- Other 20th century examples
 - Rwanda
 - Darfur
 - Bosnia

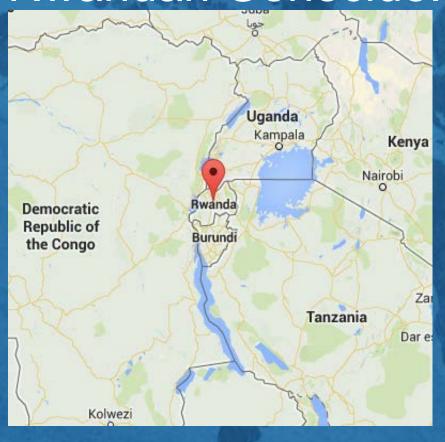
The Holocaust: 1933-1945



Key Concept

- Ethnic Cleansing
 - The elimination of an unwanted ethnic group or groups from a society as by genocide or forced emigration

Rwandan Genocide: 1994





Rwandan Genocide: 1994

- Ethnic-Based Conflict
- Hutu: Majority group
- Tutsi: Minority group
- 800,000 -1 million killed in about 100 days

Key Concept

- Colonialism
 - The practice of political domination, the control or governing influence of a nation over a dependent country, territory, or people

Rwandan Genocide: 1994

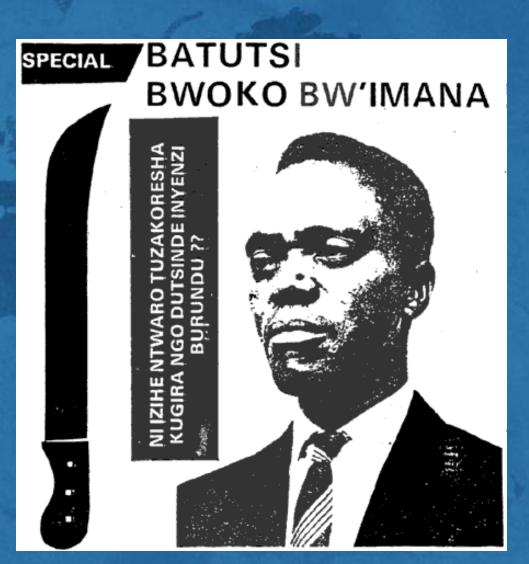


Key Concept

- Propaganda
 - information, ideas, or rumors deliberately spread widely to help or harm a person, group, movement, institution, nation, etc

Propaganda

- Tutsi: Race of God!
- What weapons will we use to win over the cockroaches for good?



Rwandan Genocide: 1994



Rwandan Genocide: 1994



Hotel Rwanda



Bosnian Genocide- 1990-1995





- Yugoslavia's republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina had a population of 4 million
- main ethnic groups:
 - Bosniak (Bosnian Muslim, 44%),
 - Serb (31%),
 - Croat (17%)
 - Yugoslav (8%)

Bosnian Genocide- 1990-1995

- After the fall of the Soviet Union in former Yugoslavia, 1990
- In July 1995 Bosnian Serbs killed 8,000 Muslim men and boys, mass expulsion of 25,000+ Bosnian Muslim civilians- sent to camps
- An attempt to ethnically cleanse the newly formed Bosnia





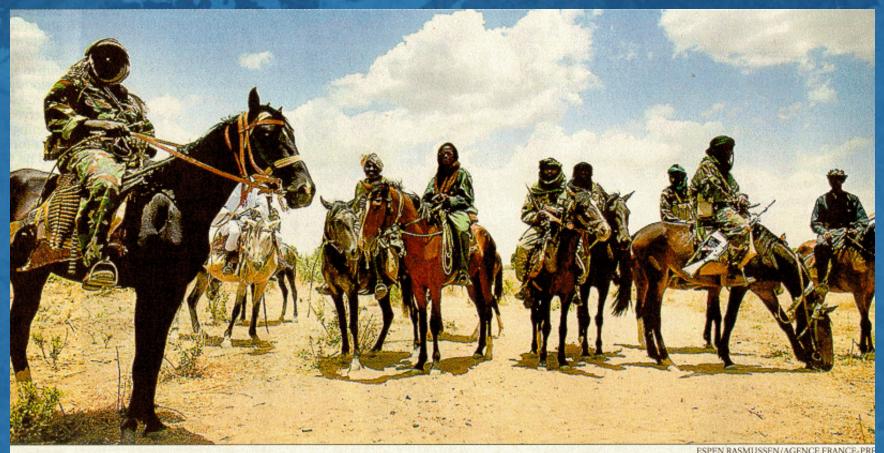






- North: nomadic, Arab, Muslim (Janjaweed)
- South: Christian, African ethnic groups
- Political Economic (NOT ETHNIC) groups form the basis of the conflict
- 400,000 dead since 2003

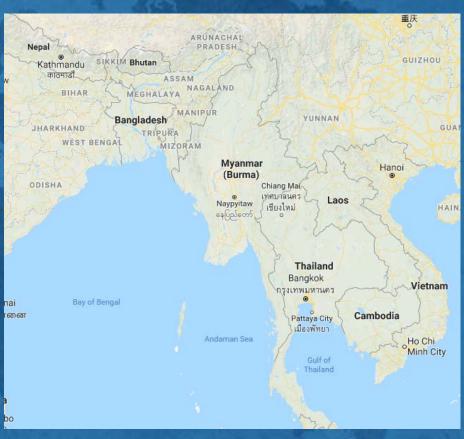






Genocide in Myanmar: Ongoing





Genocide in Myanmar: Ongoing

- Groups being targeted:
 - The Rohingya (main group)
 - Any people identifying asNon-Buddhist



Genocide in Myanmar: Ongoing

- The Burmese Military and Buddhist mobs are targeting them
- A form of Ethnic Cleansing to keep Burma predominantly Buddhist



Genocide in Myanmar: Ongoing

 The Rohingya are an ethnic Muslim minority that have been in Burma since 9th century

 Unfortunately, they have been victims of systematic persecution since the Burmese junta government took over in

1962



Genocide in Myanmar: Ongoing

- Suffer from:
 - evictions, forced labor, restricted movement and physical attacks such as rape and torture
- More than 500,000 Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh
- Estimated that about 15,000 make the dangerous journey

each day



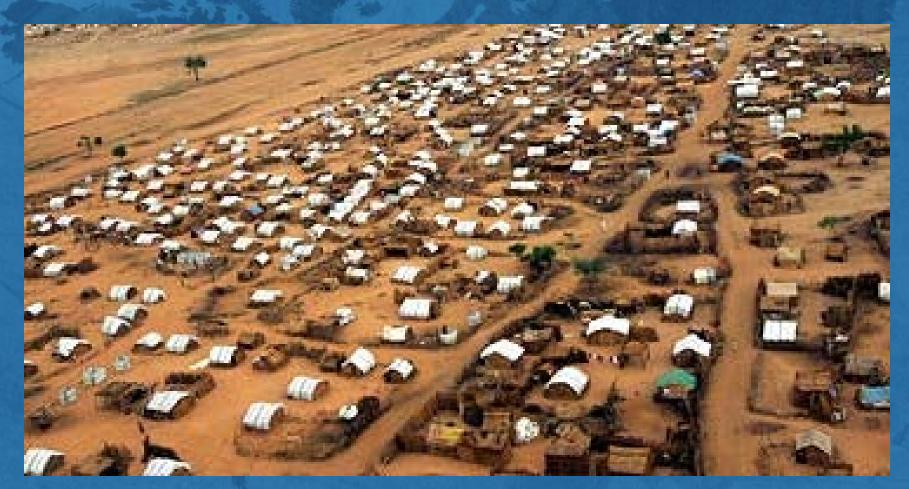
Lasting Impacts

- Refugees
- Displaced peoples
- Denial of genocide by perpetuators

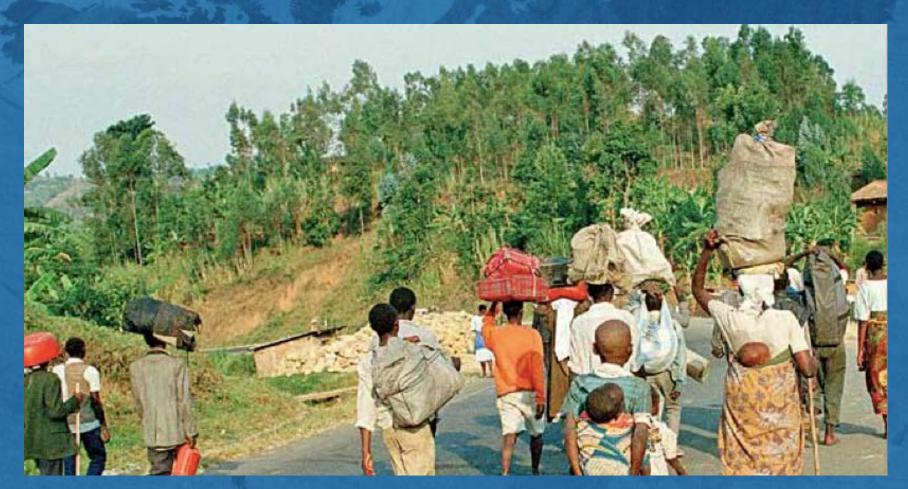
Key Concept

- Refugee
 - a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster
- Internally Displaced Persons
 - A type of political refugee made to leave ones home because of political violence to relocate in another part of te country

Refugees



Displaced People



Denial of Genocide

- Armenian Genocide
- Cambodian Genocide
- Guatemala and the "Silent Holocaust"
- Many other cases

International Human Rights

- Genocide is one of the most heinous of crimes against which all of humanity must unite to prevent its recurrence and punish those responsible. However, for the same reason, it evokes denial from both the perpetrators and those who would be called upon to intervene to prevent or stop it. This is why our strategy focuses on early prevention, by responding to situations of concern before positions harden into denial."
 - Francis Deng, Special Adviser of the United Nations Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide April 2010

The Duty to Prevent

 If the root causes of genocide revolve around inequalities between identity groups, preventing genocide begins with ensuring that all groups within society enjoy the rights and dignity of belonging as equal citizens.

Action and Prevention

How are we dealing with Genocide Today?

Action and Prevention

- INGOs: Human Rights Watch, Genocide Watch
- IGOs: United Nations, International Criminal Court
- Grassroots movements: Help Darfur Now

H U M A N RIGHTS W A T C H



Action and Prevention

INGOs: Amnesty International







Key Concept

- Human Rights
 - The basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled, often held to include the right to life and liberty, freedom of thought and expression, and equality before the law

UN Declaration of Human Rights

- Adopted in 1948 after the experiences of World War II
- Drafted by 18 member states from different political and cultural backgrounds
- Defined the meaning of human rights
 - http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&v=3VhQQrtq
 7PE&feature=fvwp
- Contains two main dimensions, outlined in later covenants (1966): 1) civil and political rights and 2) economic, social and cultural rights

International Criminal Court

- The ICC was the first physical institution established by the ROME STATUTE of the United Nations for the purpose of addressing issues of international law such as:
 - 1. Genocide
 - 2. Crimes against humanity
 - 3. War crimes
 - 4. Crimes of aggression
- What type(s) of international crime are not addressed by the ICC?
- Do you think the ICC should continue to exist?

International Criminal Court

- The Nuremberg Trials
- Who is currently on trial?

Thank you

- Contact me:
- Sheefteh Khalili
- skhalili@uci.edu